AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (currently amended)   A method for reducing a number of events presented in an event list to a user by a network management system, which events are generated by the network management system during the monitoring of a network and including events generated ~~may be~~ due to rebooting of a device on the network, wherein the events include most significant events comprising potential causal events and events of lesser significance including side effect events the method comprising:

    receiving an event relating to a device,;

    determining whether a more significant event already appears in the event list relating to the device, and if so, preventing the received event from being presented in the event list to the user, and;

    if a potential causal event is received, preventing received side effect events from being presented in the event list for a time interval,

    wherein the time interval includes a time period prior to a time of the potential causal event.

2.   (original)   A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the events are assigned a priority value according to the type of event, the priority value indicative of the relative significance of the event, and the step of determining comprises comparing the priority value of the received event with the priority value of existing events in the event list to determine whether a more significant event already appears in the event list.

3.   (original)   A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the priority value of the most significant event in the event list is stored in memory, and the step of comparing comprises comparing the priority value of the received event with the priority value in memory.

4.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the events comprise potential causal events, which may be a most significant event, and side effects which are of lesser significance.

5.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein, if a potential causal event is received, the method prevents received side effect events from being presented in the event list for a time interval.

6.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the time interval includes a time period prior to a time of the potential causal event.

7.   (currently amended)   A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein:
    the potential causal events include events which are generated as a result of receiving a Warm/Cold Start Up Trap from the device or failure of the device to respond to IP Ping, and
    the side effect events are events which are generated as a result of receiving a Link Up Trap or a Link Down Trap for a link connected to the device.

8.   (original)   A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein potential causal events which are generated as a result of receiving a Warm/Cold Start Up Trap are more significant, and

are assigned a lower priority value, than potential causal events generated as a result of failure of the device to respond to IP Ping.

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9.   (original)   A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the potential causal events further include events generated as a result of a configuration message indicating that configuration of the device has started.

10.   (original)   A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein potential causal events generated as a result of a configuration message indicating that configuration of the device has started are more significant, and are assigned a lower priority value, than potential causal events which are generated as a result of receiving a Warm/Cold Start Up Trap.

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11.   (currently amended)   A method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising, after the step of receiving the event, considering whether the event is a potential causal event, and if so, starting a timer running for a time period, and presenting the event in the event list.

12.   (original)   A method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising, preventing any further side effect events received whilst the timer is running from being presented in the event list.

13.   (original)   A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein, after the step of presenting, if a new potential causal event is received whilst the timer is running which is more